the sharing formula, fresh registration is considered by the MITCO only in the cases of educated unemployed youths financed by banks under the self employment scheme under 20 Point Programme of the Government.

Profession Tax

1292. SHRI JAGESH DESAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the maximum limit on profession tax as prescribed in Article 276(2) of the Constitution is Rs. 250;

(b) whether it is a fact that 37 years have passed since the provision was made in the Constitution and now the value of rupees is much less than it was 37 years ago; and

(c) whether the Central Government propose to amend the Constitution suitably to bring the maximum limit at par with the present situation in order to augment the resources of the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The matter is under consideration.

Opening of Navigation Lock-Gate at Farakka

1293. DR. R. K. PODDAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Navigation Lock-gate at Farakka was opened on 16th November, 1987;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the said Lock-gate has been closed since 29th November, 1987;

(c) if so, what was wrong with the Lock-gate for which it was closed within 12 days of commissioning,

(d) whether it would be opened again; and

(e) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.

Rehabilitation of Cultivators residing on Forest Land

1294. SHRI NARAYAN KAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rs. 15 crores have been made available for special schemes for rehabilitation of shifting cultivators who are residing on the forest land;

(b) if so, the State-wise details thereof;

(c) the Statewise number of families so far rehabilitated;

(d) the allocation made for the year 1988-89 for this purpose, Statewise; and

(e) the Statewise number of such families to be rehabilitated during the year 1988-89?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Details of outlays and the number of families proposed for settlement are given in the attached statement (*See* below). The implementation of the programme has commenced in the current year only and settlement is proposed over a time-frame of five years.

(d) Though a Statewise allocation has not been made, Rs. 15.00 crores for 1988-89 has been approved for the continuation of this programme in all the nine States.

(e) All the families selected for this programme during 1987-88 will continue to receive assistance during 1988-89.